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WALL STREET JOURNAL

DECEMBER 9 1996

HEROIN

...nearer than you think.

Wilson Library
Archives

dangerous books

out of the closet

completing an
1100-mile trail

how to get your rent
deposit back

S t a f f

KLIPSUN

volume 27, issue 1

western
washington
university

Editor's Note ...

The cover of Klipsun magazine has a legacy including but not limited to cartoon characters, school administrators, clowns, cars, peculiar folks and tulips. This issue, it seems our subject matter has taken a serious turn. Ann Yow, our photo advisor, best summed it up after she saw the image of illegal activity emblazoned on our computer screen.

Trying to breathe evenly she said, "This isn't tulips."

Klipsun is your campus magazine. It isn't about tulips or heroin. It's about you.

The editors of this quarter's Klipsun struggled with the decision to use the arresting cover photo. We feel that hard-to-swallow social issues shouldn't be dodged or skirted by people who control sources of information. We chose not to divert the intensity of the heroin story because we don't believe our

readers are fragile people.

At the same time, we don't wish to dramatize the topics Klipsun addresses. We aren't running this article and cover just because we have it. This article gives you a chance to see heroin users from a perspective that legality and suspicion have kept most reporters from attaining. That perspective is provided here, so you may get a glimpse without ever entering the subculture of heavy drug use.

Even if they don't dive into subcultures of illegal activity, the stories in Klipsun will always take you someplace you haven't been before or to a new idea you hadn't thought about. We hope you enjoy reading Klipsun. We can't promise stories about heroin or tulips, but sometimes we come through.

—Collin Coyne, editor

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Klipsun is a student publication distributed free of charge twice per quarter. **Klipsun** is a Lummi word meaning, "I shouldn't have eaten that last piece of pumpernickel ..." Just kiddin'. It means "beautiful sunset." **Klipsun** Magazine is printed on 50 percent recycled paper, 10 percent post-consumer waste. If you don't read this issue cover to cover, then recycle it, you'll have karma to answer to!

©December 1996

Special thanks goes out to Laurie Rossman, Ann Yow, Margaret Loudon, Ron Bailey, the entire print plant staff and Bill O'Neil for continually fixing the computers we use to build this thing.

COVER PHOTO
BACK COVER DESIGN

erin north
justin coyne

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Dancing To A Different Drummer

Jill

Carnell

spotlights

a dance

teacher's

passion for

modern

dance

Photos

by

Tim Klein



It's hot inside the dance studio, which is a cozy contrast to the steady downpour of rain just outside. The heaters creak, too — groaning and rumbling as they crank out warmth. Nicole Manus opens the door connecting the studio with the chilly foyer of Carver Gym for a little fresh air.

Manus, an education major and teacher of Beginning Modern Dance at Western, strips off the outer layers of her clothing. She is late this morning. Usually, she arrives at the studio at 7:30 a.m. to warm up for her 9 a.m. class.

Manus looks comfortable in tight black stirrup leggings, soft striped flannel shorts rolled up to her hips, and a loose, faded purple tank top. She doesn't look like a ballerina, but as she explains, modern dance is not ballet.

"Ballet is a means to strengthen my technique," she says, comparing the classical 18th-century form of dance to the more recently developed modern style. "There just



portrait



much taking place creatively for me."

Modern dance is a response to — and an offshoot of — classical ballet, which calls for stiff poses and strict formats.

Twentieth century pioneers, such as Martha Graham, released dancers from restrictive postures and created new, innovative twists on old dance ideas.

Manus, 24, is one of several students at

Western who teaches beginning and beginning/intermediate ballet classes part time.

Although Western does not offer a dance degree, the Theater Arts Department is known for quality training. "We have such high-quality learning and growing here," explains Manus.

Manus wants to use the experience she has gained at Western to teach modern dance at an "arts-based school."

"I would like to teach academics through the arts as much as I can," she says. "I see [dance] as a language for communication. I don't think that we teach people enough to express themselves outside of speech and writing."

Unlike many dancers who start intensive training at a young age, Manus only began dancing seriously four years ago. "That's when I really became focused and passionate about dance," she says.

Manus, who is in her seventh year at Western, came to college prepared to major in elementary education with a focus in arts. And although she has since discovered dance, her plans have not changed; instead, she has incorporated dancing into her dreams for the future.

When she first took dance classes at Western she discovered dance instructor Nolan Denet, who helped her find a love of dance. "I became excited about dance because it's a physical, athletic outlet," she says. "I've never enjoyed organized sports, but I need to be physically active. [Denet] pushes you beyond technique."

Two years ago, she took Theater Arts 434, where Denet taught her how "to train students' minds as well as their bodies." She waited two years to begin teaching a class — and she might have waited longer if Denet had not called her three days before the beginning of fall quarter and asked her to take the class.

However, her teaching experience is not limited to fall quarter. For the past few years, Manus has taught a nationally competitive "winter guard" dance group in Seattle.

Winter Guard Dancers are an offshoot of color guard,

a military-style marching troupe that dances with props.

Winter Guard performers focus more on the dance elements than on the use of props. "It's really a solid dance program," she explains.

The Winter Guard Dancers — who are part of the Northwest Passage Performing Arts Foundation — range in ages from 14 to 22 and vary in experience. Some come to Manus with little dance experience, but have some experience with props, while others show up with plenty of formal dance training and no equipment experience.

She warms up on the floor by spreading her legs wide apart and stretching forward. Her chest nearly touches the floor. As she stretches, she talks about some of the anxiety of those learning to dance.

"Particularly at a beginning level, we all have a lot more movement potential than we give ourselves credit for. There's a lot of fear, anxiety and inhibition in people who haven't danced before.

"There's an initial reaction of 'I can't do that!'"

she says.

"But then we break it down,

and they discover that, yes,

they can do it. It's definitely an exhilarating feeling." Manus feels she has learned about herself and other people by teaching dance.

"I definitely have to relate to people in a different way," she says, pulling her long, wavy brown hair into a tight French braid.

"You have to be sensitive to individuals. Most people aren't comfortable with their bodies, and when you're in a dance class, there's nothing to hide behind," she says.

Her first weeks of teaching at Western have been both challenging and rewarding.



"I see [dance] as

a language for

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Since modern dance classes at Western use live musicians — on drums and other percussion instruments — instead of taped music, Manus had to learn to explain to the musician what kind of music she wanted.

"I had to get a feel for how the percussionist worked, and to be able to give him accurate tempos so he could do what he needed to do."

...

At 8:50, one student comes into the studio. She lies on the floor, her knees curled up to her chest. A sigh of relief escapes her lips as the stretch eases the tension in her thighs.

At 8:55, more students begin to trickle into the studio, peeling off their damp coats and shoes and leaving their backpacks in a pile by the door. One by one they drop to the floor and begin to stretch.

Class begins exactly at 9. Manus demonstrates the tempo she wants by snapping her fingers, and the drummer responds with appropriate music. They start on the floor, in what Manus calls "the big X," with legs and arms stretched out. They twist to the beat of the drums, stretching their legs and hips and backs. Some of the students are dancers, poised and

"We'll do what we did last time," she says. "We'll start with the pliés [a dance movement], and then on to the tendus and extensions. Ready, and one, two ..."

They bend and straighten their legs, sinking to a crouched position, and rise only to sink once again. "Yes, keep it fluid!" Manus shouts over the rhythmic pulsating of the bongo drums.

The warmup is a sequence of steps carefully designed to stretch and loosen every muscle. Manus stops occasionally to change the tempo or make comments. "Be sure you're standing up straight," she tells a young woman in a T-shirt.

Manus says that more experienced dancers can use basic classes to explore their creative sides. "They end up being better choreographic instruments, with a better understanding of how movement can be manipulated. It's easier for them to become creative as well."

She has some experience in that area: she took a dance composition course with Denet last year and choreographed two dances, which were performed at student recitals at Western.

She feels that choreographing a dance is more difficult than following dance steps created by someone else.

"If you're truly creating new movement, rather than putting steps you already know into a sequence, it takes more time and investment," she says. "But it's different emotionally because it came from your own head. There's a greater sense of security when you're performing your own work."

**Nicole Manus
helps one of
her students
to improve
her dance
technique.**



trained; others move more awkwardly, unsure of the movement and unable to keep up with the tempo of the bongo drums in the corner. But there are no slackers (in this class) who wait for 9:50 when they can grab their packs and head out into the rain. There are no geniuses or teacher's pets, either. Everyone moves at the same tempo — some try to learn the steps, while others who know the moves strive to perfect and learn from them.

"Everyone gains something from my class," says Manus.

The class rises and continues the warm up at the pale wooden barre that stretches from wall to wall against the window.

There isn't enough room for each dancer to move freely, so Manus and three other students lug two heavy metal barres to the center of the room.

Manus says a few words to the percussionist in the corner.

She then takes her place at a 2-foot long barre in the front of the room.

Manus doesn't have much spare time for creating new dances, however. She works more than 40 hours every week at three jobs — one in Seattle — and tries to maintain a high average in her classes.

"It's a luxury to have the time and space to work on new dances," she says.

Although dance is a precarious line of work — injuries and competition can keep a dancer from having a lucrative career — Manus is sure that she's made the right decisions about the future.

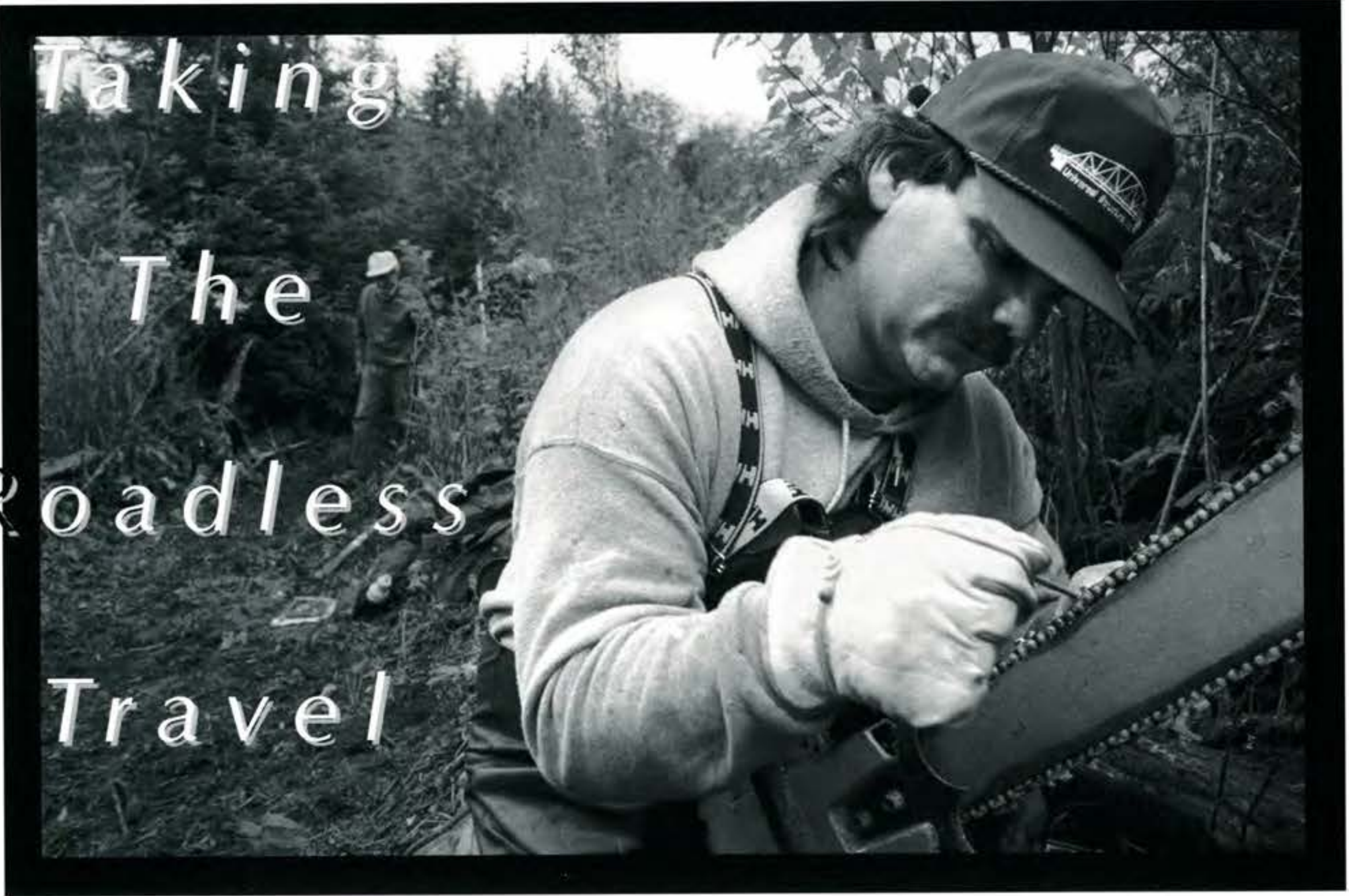
"I would have to be almost paralyzed not to be able to teach some kind of movement," she explains. "I also hope to teach more than dance — like music and theater. I was an education major before I started dancing seriously."

And what would she do if she wasn't dancing?

"I can't even imagine."



Taking The Roadless Travel



Rick Todahl clears the way for The Pacific Northwest Trail

One man dreamed of creating a trail across three states—Montana, Idaho, and Washington—27 years ago. After some setbacks, the trail became a reality. With the help of volunteers and the cooperation of the federal and state governments, The Pacific Northwest Trail will cross 1,100 miles, and is scheduled to be completed at the end of the millennium.

Bryan Woodward takes
to the trail to find the dirt.

Photos by Tim Klein



Jim Sturdevant exerts the effort to create a new trail.

Beam, who saw the ad in one of Seattle's papers the week before, felt it was a good way to spend her Sunday, combining work with sightseeing and meeting new people.

"We don't do much hiking in Florida," said Beam, jokingly. "I don't know many people into this so I thought I would give it a chance and come up here."

BRINGING IT TOGETHER

When Strickland, an avid hiker, returned from his inaugural Northwest visit, he vowed to one day build an east-to-west trail that would rival the famous north-to-south Appalachian Trail in the East and the Pacific Crest Trail of the West.

After moving to the region in the late '70s, Strickland decided on the trail's path.

Stretching from Brown Pass at the Continental Divide in Montana's Glacier National Park to Cape Lava at Olympic National Park in Washington, the trail would span seven national forests and three national parks, as well as private and state land.

Now, the trail winds through 100 miles of northwest Montana into the Bitterroots of the Idaho Panhandle. It crosses the Colville National Forest in northeast Washington. The trail con-

tinues from the northeast into the northwest,



Glenn Harvey protects himself from the elements.

Near the top of Anderson Mountain the wind is still. A dense, misty fog blankets the summit's dark evergreen outline. The temperature, holding steady in the upper 30s, is a precursor to the coming winter months.

In the Skagit Valley below, patches of gold speckle the dark ominous greens of the forest: fall foliage has reached its peak.

"I didn't expect it to be this beautiful," said Betsi Beam, 33, who wears ear muffs, a gray Miami Hurricanes sweatshirt, and one of the few pairs of jeans she owns (used for what she calls "freezing cold weather"). She is a longtime Florida resident who left the sunshine state last September to pursue a doctorate degree in political science at the University of Washington. "I heard this area was beautiful, but I wasn't prepared for this."

A diverse group of volunteers gather on Anderson Mountain's southwest side this October morning armed with brush cutters, hazel hoes, machetes, double-edged axes and chainsaws to build a trail. They are downright giddy about the day ahead.

"Trail-building is a lot of fun," said Jim Sturdevant, an attorney from Bellingham, grinning about the prospect of the day's work. "I must like it, I've been doing it for a year and a half."

Sturdevant, among others, has volunteered his time to piece together a 1,100 mile trail, called the Pacific Northwest Trail, for hikers, equestrians and mountain bikers alike.

The idea of the Trail, consisting of back-country roads, logging roads, foot paths, trails, dikes and seashore, was conceived by Ron Strickland of Delaware some 27 years ago while he visited the Pacific Northwest.

Today, several unconnected areas exist along the trail's three-state route, especially in Whatcom, Skagit and Island counties, where 182 miles of the trail will stretch.

"That's why we are here," said Joan Melcher, secretary/treasurer of the Pacific Northwest Trail Association (PNTA), an organization formed in 1977. "The route has already been determined. Now, we are brushing it out and making it usable."

creating a path through the Pasayten Wilderness, Ross Lake Recreational Area, North Cascades National Park and the Mount Baker Wilderness. The trail cuts through the hills of Skagit County, running from Blanchard Mountain to Chuckanut Drive. Then, following dikes and roads, the trail borders Padilla Bay and crosses Fidalgo Island and parts of Whidbey Island.

The trail follows a series of beaches and roads, winding its way to the Keystone-Port Townsend ferry. On the Olympic Peninsula, it slices through Olympic National Park, reaching the Pacific Ocean at Cape Lava.

Approximately two dozen people have hiked the trail's entire route, including the unfinished portions. Strickland and a friend hiked the entire route in 1983.

The PNTA suggests participants hike east to west and begin in mid-June. Barring heavy late-season snowfall in the high country of the Rockies or early fall precipitation in the Olympics, the trail takes about five months. Hikers should reach Cape Lava in late September or early October.

OPPOSITION

In the early 1980s, Strickland proposed the idea of the interstate trail to the federal government, but opposition by the Seattle Mountaineers and the Washington Trail Association defeated Strickland's hope for Congressional approval and funding.

"It was killed before it started," said Melcher. "That put the idea in a definite bind.

Greg Ball, member of the Washington Trail Association, said groups that opposed the project feared that too much traffic in those desolate wilderness areas would damage fragile ecosystems.

Melcher and members of the Pacific Northwest Trail Association disagree.

"People going into the wilderness areas have to purchase back-country permits," Melcher said. "Under the National Wilderness Act, only 12 pairs of eyes can be in any one back-country group.

"That means if you have six horses, you can only have six people. That act was specifically passed to prevent a large impact on the environment," Melcher added. "Yes, parts of the trail will go through wilderness areas, but hordes of people aren't going to be walking in those areas."

Without federal funding, the blueprint for the interstate trail lay dead. Strickland, however, wasn't ready to give up on his dream.

"Mr. Strickland decided we'd do it without their help," Melcher said. "That's why [the PNTA is] using existing trails, back-country roads, and — where no trails exist — we're getting property owners' permission."

Melcher said the organization has received support from private owners and public owners of land that cross the undeveloped areas of the trail.

WORK PARTY

"That was a monster root!" Beam cheered enthusiastically, after digging it out of the dirt and throwing it to the side.

Once a month on Sunday mornings, members of the PNTA gather together to narrow the gap between the existing portions of the trail and what Melcher calls the "missing links."

Duncan Haas, a 34-year-old Seattle resident, works his first day on the trail.

"I ran across the brochure at an outdoor store," said Haas, leaning on the butt of his pulaski, a double-edged axe. "It sounded like a basically good idea, so I thought I would come up here and help out."

Haas has helped the PNTA by donating \$4,000. He withdrew the money from a trust fund his grandparents specifically set up for non-profit organizations.

Haas, also a volunteer for the Seattle Mountaineers, said he doesn't worry about the amount of traffic going into the wilderness area.

"There's always going to be a debate going on," said Haas, readying his axe for another strike at a dead log blocking the trail. "People are always wondering about the amount of traffic, but the bulk of this

trail just won't have it."

Approximately 50 yards downhill, Pat Born, a therapist from Mount Vernon, cuts away at thick brush, clearing a wider path for the trail's users.

"I think it's wonderful,"

Born, 51, said. "This is my first time helping, but I'll be back."

Rick Todahl, of Sedro Woolley,

owns a guided horseback riding business and realizes the magnitude of the project.

"It's going to take awhile," Todahl said. He rests in between the strikes he makes on a root with his chain saw. "We just have to build and clear a portion a little bit at a time."

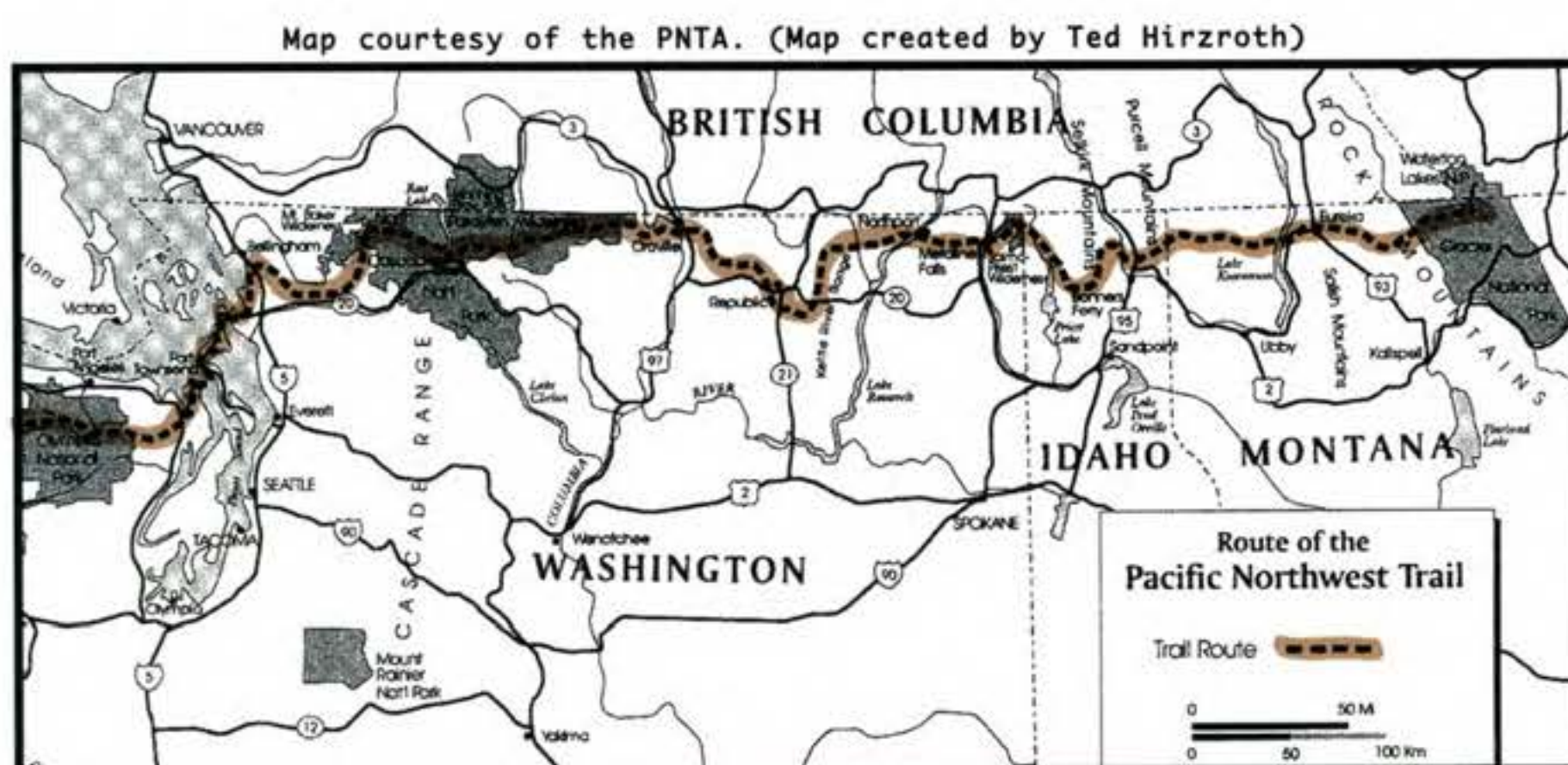
Perched on a rock, while snacking on a dish of pasta salad from Haggen, Bellingham resident Connie Albrecht-Ross, 38, said she had been planning to volunteer for some time.

"I have kids. I wanted to do this, but the time is hard to find," Albrecht-Ross said. "This is great. I ride horses, so I plan on using this trail."

"It's incredible," she added. "How all these trails are made. It's all volunteer. The time involved is overwhelming."

The PNTA hopes to finish the entire trail by the year 2000, and wants to continue to work with Congress to get the Pacific Trail designated as a National Scenic Trail.

"We are going to complete it. We've come this far, and if we have to put in overtime, we'll do it," Melcher said.



The best way to take the trail is from east to west. The trail begins in Montana and ends on the coast of Washington.

THE FLIP SIDE TO "READING RAINBOW"

JUSTIN COYNE TAKES A LOOK INSIDE THE BOOKS OF ACTION PUBLISHING

There is nothing sinister about this office I'm sitting in. The yellow file cabinet, the wood-paneled walls riddled with brochures and notes, the cluttered desk with its computer and buried phone — none of these things is keeping secrets.

Ed Bynon, the man sitting across from me — the man whose couch I'm sitting on — has his legs crossed, his work boots projecting toward me. He is wearing a leather jacket zipped all the way up and he talks casually with his hands behind his head.

"I could put a book together from other sources — see on TV that in Tennessee they busted some guys with illegal weapons and three quarters of them had the serial numbers filed off — OK, that's good."

He makes a mark on an imaginary checklist in the palm of his hand.

"Then maybe I see in a movie where somebody gets shot in the face — OK, that sounds like a pretty good way to get the job done."

The book he's talking about is not something he made up. It's been done.

"Hitman: A Technical Manual for Independent Contractors" is one of many lethal how-to books available from presses around the country.

Paladin Press, original publisher of Rex Feral's "Hitman," and leader among publishers specializing in "military after market" books, now prints more than 750 titles.

Bynon's own collection — acquired over the years from Paladin, Delta Press Limited and Loompanics Unlimited contains 30 to 35 titles ranging in subject



from silencers to submarines.

"I've always been fascinated with mechanical things — guns, locksmithing, explosives," he shrugs his shoulders. "In my early years I probably played a little more with that kind of thing." Bynon, owner of the Bellingham business Alumatop, is not a part of any militia; he is planning no government overthrow. He is a hobbyist who buys books on the mechanics of the things he's interested in, just as an enthusiast in tennis or model planes might do.

Paladin has served a specific group of hobbyists since its founding in 1970. Unfortunately, it cannot limit sales to hobbyists alone.

In 1993, a Detroit man named James Perry ordered "Hitman" through an ad in *Soldier of Fortune* magazine. In March of that same year he carried out the contract killings of three people in Maryland.

In his trial, attorneys for the state of

Maryland cited 27 specific instructions Perry followed from "Hitman," including using a homemade silencer, and filing down the rifle's barrel to fool ballistics experts. Perry was convicted and sentenced to death.

Families of the victims filed suit in July of this year, charging Paladin and its founder, Peter Lund, with conspiracy to commit murder and aiding and abetting murder for involvement in the Maryland killings.

Lund remained confident throughout the suit, calling it a "dead-on free speech issue," but warned that a small press like Paladin could easily go bankrupt from a costly legal battle.

Loompanics Unlimited, a Port Townsend-based distributor, and one of the "Big Three" of "action publishing," (along with Paladin and Delta) made contributions to Paladin's defense.

"There is always some Puritan faction

that wants to do away with us godless heathens," said Dennis Eichhorn, editorial director at Loompanics.

He feels that everyone in the field has an interest in the outcome of the Paladin suit — which to date has cost Paladin more than \$300,000 — but does not look for the swift end to litigation sought by Lund.

"If this went to the Supreme Court," Eichhorn said, "it would actually be good for us, because (Paladin) would win."

Late this summer U.S. District Court Judge Alexander Williams issued a summary judgment in Paladin's favor, but appeals have been filed by the plaintiffs. Lund still fears the threat posed by those appeals.

A statement issued by Paladin titled, "Your Freedom to Read is Under Attack!" was released on a web site that has been accessed more than 13,000 times in the last six months. The statement says, "Whatever — and whenever — the ultimate decision may be in this case, the outcome will be de facto censorship if Paladin is forced into bankruptcy in the process of defending our freedom of speech."

Lund's critics do not agree with his raising the free speech banner. Charles G. Brown, a Washington attorney who is writing a book about the Maryland slayings, in a recent Wall Street Journal commentary wrote, "This case is not about free speech. It is about responsible behavior — something for which we are all accountable, including book publishers."

Paladin's list of titles reads like an experiment in testing the bounds of free speech. Titles like "Breath of the Dragon: Home Built Flame-throwers," "The Brass Knuckle Bible," and "Be Your Own Undertaker: How to Dispose of a Dead Body" cover questionable topics in depth, while "How to Build a Beer Can Mortar," "The Poor Man's Nuclear Bomb," and "The Poor Man's Ray Gun" venture into the downright ludicrous.

In fact, some of Paladin's best-selling books approach their grave subjects with ironic humor. Books like, "Screw Unto Others" and "The Big Book of Revenge" seem best suited to the disclaimer that comes with most of Paladin's books: For entertainment purposes only.

Author George Hayduke has made a career out of his revenge books, which now number more than a dozen. His first book, "Get Even: The Complete Book of Dirty Tricks," has sold more than 250,000 hard cover copies

through Paladin alone, and is carried by small presses around the country.

Loompanics, which does more than \$2 million in business each year as a publisher and distributor, does most of its business in books less military in nature.

"Secrets of a Super Hacker" is a best-seller among books printed by Loompanics, to date selling more than 50,000 copies. Other hot titles include "How to Date Women Under 35," and the more recent "How to Dump Your Wife."

"How to Dump Your Wife" is probably our

litigation, action publishers have no shortage of customers eager to buy their books.

From the late 1970s Paladin's sales doubled almost yearly, carrying it from being a publisher of out-of-print and uncommon military manuals, to the multi-million dollar company it is today.

In the wake of exposure from the James Perry trial, and the later civil suit against Lund, Paladin sales are growing faster than ever.

In a recent New York Times interview

"There is always some puritan faction that wants to do away with us godless heathens."



Klipsun/Justin Coyne

Dennis Eichhorn, editorial director at Loompanics Unlimited

number-one seller right now," Eichhorn said. "And second behind that is a book called 'Oral Caress,' and a lot of the guys who are buying 'How to Dump Your Wife' are the same ones buying this book on oral sex — go figure."

But the military books, including Feral's "Hitman," are on Loompanics' list of more than 650 titles; a list that gives them less trouble than Paladin has found in the same business world.

"Some books scare people, but we've never actually had the government come talk to us," Eichhorn said.

Instead, he says, the trouble they have comes more from informal sanctions. "Certain magazines won't run our ads, or review our books, or rent us their mailing lists."

In spite of closed doors and the threat of

Lund said of this boost, "People call and say, 'I want to buy books from you before I can't buy books anymore.'"

This grave outlook may seem better suited to Paladin's own "entertainment" material, but action press readers fear lawsuits like the ones filed against Lund and Paladin in a very real way.

"Litigation seems to be very popular in our current world," Bynon says.

"I think this would be one of those precedent-type deals. Once one suit goes through you'll get all these others."

The ramifications, as Paladin warns, could extend to films, television and fiction. Similar suits have been brought against the film industry in recent years. Director Oliver Stone was sued for a violent crime spree in Louisiana allegedly inspired by his film *Natural Born Killers*.

In addition to its support of Paladin's defense, Loompanics also donated to the defense of Bellingham's The Newsstand in last year's trial over the controversial comic book "Answer Me!"

Paladin vehemently warns against such litigation, saying, "Make no mistake about it: if the product liability lawyers are allowed to become the thought police, the freedom of every artist and information provider and every American citizen will be at risk."



TENANT TRIALS

Christopher Butterfield investigates rental agreements and tenant rights every renter should know.

SECURITY, CLEANING AND DAMAGE DEPOSIT AGREEMENT

PROPERTY ADDRESS: _____

Receipt of \$ _____ is hereby acknowledged as a clean, non-refundable.

for time required to clean the unit and restore the unit to its prior condition, less normal wear and tear.

1. **CLEANING.** A charge of \$15.00 per hour will be made for the time required to clean the unit and restore the unit to its prior condition, less normal wear and tear.
2. **DAMAGE.** A charge of \$20.00 per hour will be made to restore the unit to its prior condition, less normal wear and tear.

3. **SECURITY. FAILURE TO PROVIDE WRITTEN NOTICE TO LANDLORD OF INTENT TO VACATE 30 DAYS PRIOR TO THE END OF THE LEASE OR RENTAL PERIOD WILL FORFEIT DEPOSIT AUTOMATICALLY.**

4. **PENALTY. RENTAL DEPOSIT WILL BE FORFEITED IF RESIDENT DOES NOT RESIDE IN THE UNIT THROUGHOUT THE LEASE OR RENTAL PERIOD.**

5. **RENT. TENANT SHALL PAY RENT ON THE FIRST DAY OF EACH MONTH.**
6. **REFUND. DEPOSIT WILL BE REFUNDED TO TENANT WITHIN 14 DAYS OF VACATING THE UNIT AS REQUIRED.**

unit until it is re-rented.

14 days of vacating the unit as required.

deducted from the deposit. Resident is not entitled to this portion of the security deposit.

through midnight of the day the keys are returned. All keys shall be turned in by the tenant. If not returned, the locks will be changed.

Has your landlord ever entered your apartment without permission, kept your deposit, responded slowly to repair requests or basically not provided adequate assistance to your needs? If so, you're not alone.

In a random survey, 60 current Western students who had previously rented from a landlord were asked if they had ever had problems with a landlord. The questions were similar to those listed on the previous page; twenty-four (two out of five) students responded affirmatively.

Bellingham trial lawyer Richard C. Kimberly has dealt with many cases involving issues similar to those listed above. Kimberly's office is located at 1601 F St. inside a quaint little white house you might expect to find your grandma residing in. Wearing a white T-shirt tucked into dark Levis, the first impression he conveyed was a man who worked with farm animals. However, Kimberly's office, coupled with his demeanor, erased any doubts pertaining to his status as an attorney.

The dark interior of his office bespoke of a man richly enmeshed in his work. Kimberly's neatly arranged bookcase dominated the wall immediately behind him, augmenting his deep, precise voice. Talking to Kimberly over his 6-foot oak desk, one could sense the presence he must pervade in the courtroom.

RIGHT OF ENTRY

"Probably the most entertaining case I ever had was a two or three-day trial," said Kimberly, a balding, 40-something man whose hairline is maintained by a clump of hair on his forehead. "Over on Cedar, there was a rooming house right across from campus. My client was a different kind of guy, nice guy. (He) roomed there ... and periodically his landlord would just turn the key and enter his room--he walked right in. And my guy would tell him, 'Don't come in my room.'"

"One day my guy is in the room, and the key turns, and the landlord walks in, and he's got a camera. He starts taking pictures, snapping pictures of my guy's room. The landlord was a Canadian fellow who just owned the rooming house," Kimberly said.

According to Washington State law, outlined in Title 59 of the Revised Code of Washington, a landlord must give two days' notice of intent to enter a tenant's dwelling unless: they wish to exhibit the dwelling to prospective purchasers at a reasonable time, in which case only one day's notice is necessary, and in cases of emergency or abandonment, a landlord need not give written notice. All other situations involving landlord entry into a tenant's dwelling are considered trespassing.

"The judge didn't give him (landlord) the time of day," said Kimberly, his elbows perched on his leather armrests and his

hands held before his face at the fingertips. "We got injunctive relief (preventing further trespassing) where the court said, 'You can't do that any more, that's illegal, you shouldn't have done it.' And it ended up the guy had to pay four or five thousand dollars in attorney's fees because he lost the case. Well, he was just livid because he lost the case, but it's clear that the tenant was right. The landlord doesn't have the right to come walking through your apartment or walking through your house anytime they want to."

A landlord's right of entry is just one of many tenant/landlord regulations which are discussed in Title 59. The other major points of conflict are outlined in this story, but the regulations actually extend to many different arenas involved with tenant/landlord regulations.

Because title 59 is so lengthy, it's recommended that current and new tenants seek more information and pick up one of the smaller brochures on tenant/landlord rights available from Western's Student Legal Information Center (650-6111) or through the Whatcom County Opportunity Council (734-5121).

MOVE-IN

When a tenant moves into a new apartment or house, he/she enters into either a month-to-month rental agreement or a lease. The lease has guidelines written into it that are created by the landlord and are based on law. The lease must be agreed upon by both the tenant and landlord, and signed. Either a refundable

deposit or non-refundable fees must be paid to the landlord for potential cleaning and damage costs. If a refundable deposit is given to the landlord, the law requires that a damage review document be filled out. This document is written proof of any damages that were caused to a rental before a tenant's move-in. Charges to the tenant, which may be necessary upon a tenant's move-out, are based on damages not listed in this document. The tenant usually has several days to return the revised damage-review sheet to the landlord.

"One of the biggest mistakes students make is not filling out a checklist," said Robin Sponseller, Coordinator of Western's Legal Information

Center. "A student won't know about it, or they don't fill it out. So when they move out the landlord says, 'You made a hole in the wall,' and you try to argue that it was already there. There's nothing arguable. It was either there before you moved in or after."

When a tenant gives a landlord a refundable deposit, it must be placed into a trust account, and a receipt must be given to the ten-



ant by the landlord. When it comes time for the tenant to move out, the landlord has 14 days to inspect the dwelling for damages and return the deposit. The money from a deposit is rarely returned in its entirety; it is usually used for carpet cleaning, apartment cleaning and repair purposes.

At times, small print in the lease agreement will require a written notice that informs the landlord of the planned move-out of a tenant. More often than not, tenants will forfeit their deposits if they don't notify the landlord, Sponseller said.

Often times tenants are unaware of the need to submit an intent-

to-vacate notice and lose their deposit, feeling as if they've had "one pulled over" on them.

"I think that (deception) does happen in the market, and I don't want to give you the impression that it doesn't," said co-owner of Ebright-Wight Property Management, Doug Wight.

"But it's always the intent of a professional management company not to have that happen," said Wight.

"Tenants need to realize that they don't have to take this just because they're college kids," Kimberly said. "They have rights as

well, and the law is real specific. The first thing I would do if I were a tenant would be to go out and get a copy of Title 59, the 'landlord/tenant' law. I'd just read it and make sure the landlord toes the line. Make sure that you know what your rights are."

CLEANING & DAMAGES

Cleaning and damage repair is the single biggest area of conflict between tenants and landlords, Kimberly said.

Wight, a 1970 graduate from Western, discussed this issue with dorm residents at Western during seminars he held in the late '80s and early '90s. According to Wight, disputes over the cause of damages are primarily a result of young, inexperienced renters entering into an adult situation for the first time and not realizing their responsibilities.

"Every year there is going to be some conflict," said Wight, peering out through his oval glasses. "It's one of those conflicts that have jammed courts for years, and it's one of the reasons that we had the (move-in) contract written up."

"Everybody has different ways of cleaning. Some people don't go into the cupboards and clean out all the crumbs, but they'll clean the counter tops off nicely ... well, if a landlord has to go back and hire a cleaner to touch-up clean, they have to pay them a lot more per hour than you think. And that gets charged against the security deposit. A few little



things like that add up pretty soon, and it looks like all the landlord is trying to do is pick away at the security deposit.

"You're dealing with an opportunity to waste a landlord's assets. In other words, you bring the animals in, you beat up on the place or you have a party and it gets out of hand, and things get spilled and broken or whatever.

"There's always an opportunity there for a person who's brand new to not understand what it means to treat the apartment as if it's their own. It's implied that they're treated well," he said.

Cleaning is usually provided by small individual contractors who provide their own equipment and transportation.

These cleaners usually charge \$12 to \$18 an hour and always round up to the next hour. In addition, maintenance people who repair damaged property usually charge slightly more than a cleaner, Wight said.

"It might cost \$25 to \$30, for an hour minimum, for a maintenance man to go (replace a fire alarm battery)," Wight said. "Gosh, it doesn't look right to a tenant. It's not a negative thing for the maintenance man to do that. Whenever a man gets paid by the hour and he's in business for himself there's always a base amount of time he'll charge."

But what of those times when a student fails to notice a major damage upon move-in and is charged for it or something else they did not cause?

"I don't know," said Kelly Fotinos, office manager at Bellingham Property Management, Inc. "I don't work at any of the other offices, but from what I've heard and what I've gathered, there are some that are so crazy (busy) they don't know what the other hand is doing half the time. And they don't have one certain person following from move-in to move-out, so they're kind of caught in the crossfire."

THE PEOPLE'S COURT®

"A lot of times students are just frustrated that they got fucked over," said Sponseller from behind his Legal Center desk. Small Claims Court is an option for students who feel they have been bilked out of some money, Sponseller said.

"It's like 'The People's Court,'" Sponseller said.

It costs approximately \$25 to file a claim and generally takes about two months before the court will hear a case. The litigant's arguments are then heard by a judge and no jury. The

judge then passes on the decision as to who does or does not owe damages.

If the damages are not paid within 20 days, the case may be filed with the district or superior court for \$5 or \$20, respectively.

"Most commonly, the litigation occurs over damages," Kimberly said. "I have a series. I call them my 'kitty cases,' involving cats. A big, big problem with landlords is cats because cat urine is virtually impossible to get out of the carpet ... inevitably whenever there is cat urine in the carpet the carpet has to be replaced. So the landlord comes in and sues the tenant for the cost of the carpet.

"In fact it was hilarious—one gal got up on the stand in a trial one day, and she talked about how well-behaved her kitty was," Kimberly said. "She said, 'My kitty is a very private

kitty. My kitty would just not sit in the middle of the floor and go to the bathroom. My kitty would want to go outside and go someplace else.' There's no way. This cat was very active. It messed up the carpet in just about every room—it was quite a lot of money to replace all of that carpet."

Kimberly said things are changing.

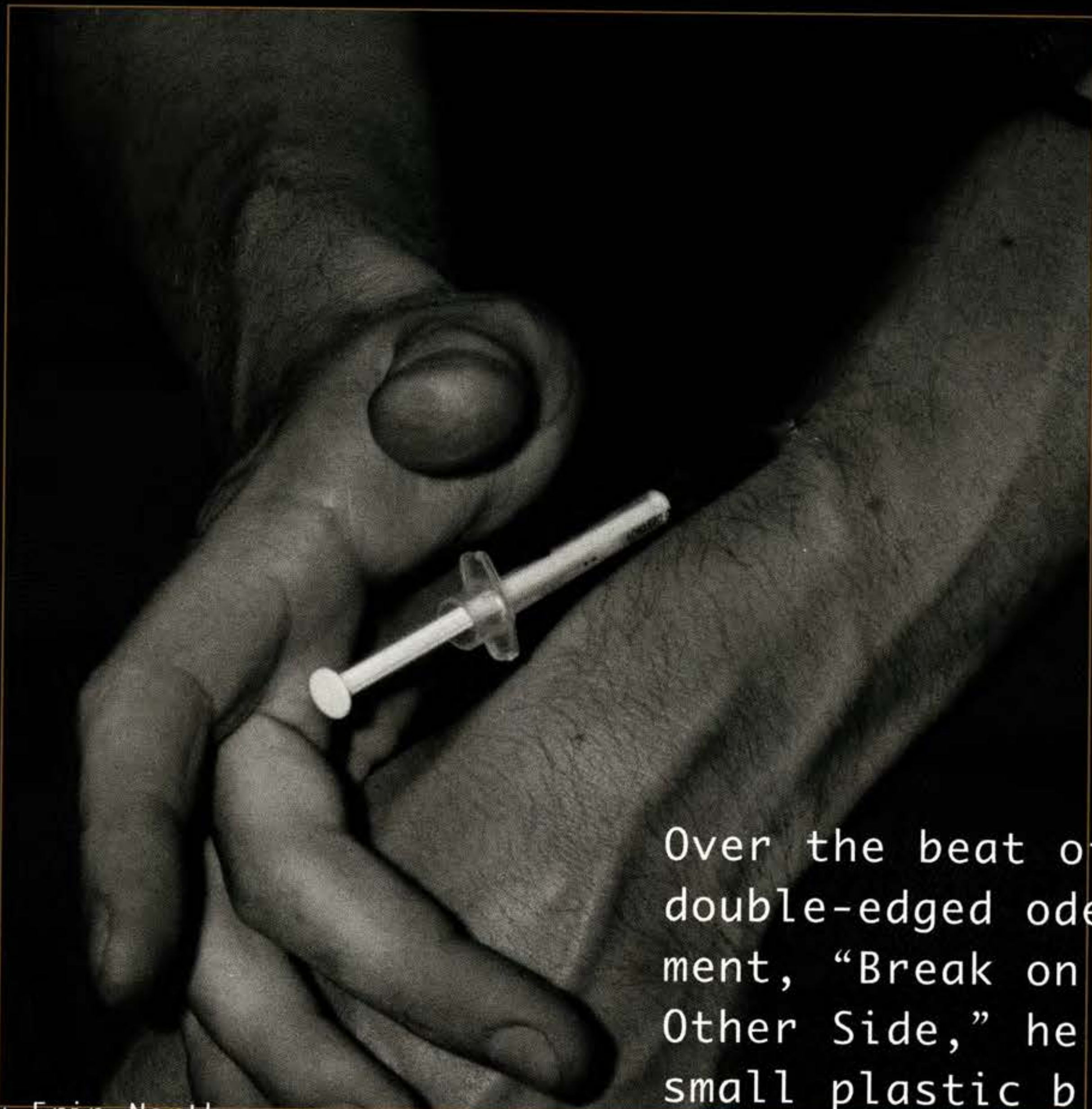
"It's getting better," Kimberly said. "There's landlords who are realizing their responsibility. You have very few of the old tyrant-type landlords who are like, 'This is my house, you'll do what I say.'"

"We've got a lot of tenants that come and go," Wight said. "We have 900 units. We don't want to have conflicts. We don't want to have problems. We don't want to go to court. It's a measure of our success how much we don't have in conflict costs."



WALKING THE M

*Writer Erin North Taps A Hit
of Heroin Addiction in Be*



photos by Erin North

Over the beat of the
double-edged ode to
ment, "Break on Thr
Other Side," he put
small plastic bag
half-gram of black

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The room is chilly, but Michael, a 22-year-old Western student, complains about the heat. He sports a trashed afterglow, his skin is clammy and his eyes are sunken. He looks like any other college student in the midst of cold season and midterms.

He carefully taps some heroin into a metal spoon he carries next to his needles and stash, and places a small wad of cotton in the middle of the mixture to filter out impurities.

"Heroin can be cut with some of the nastiest shit known to man," explains Michael, "mascara, manure, sugar or whatever."

He wraps the leather belt several times around his track-marked forearm and pulls it tight. Finding a good vein, he draws just a little blood back into the syringe before injecting the drug. The belt loosens and he describes the initial anxious feeling and the butterflies in his chest.

"If you could feel the word 'plush' — that'd be what it's like," says Michael. "Your muscles relax and this crazy fucking warm feeling comes all over your body and a nice little rush goes up your spine."

Michael started using heroin about seven or eight months ago—beginning of Spring quarter '96. He was snorting cocaine when the opportunity arose to snort heroin. It didn't seem like a big leap. After that, shooting just came naturally.

"The first couple of times, I shabanged (snorted) it," says Michael "but I never really had a fear of needles and I knew I was gonna do it someday. I would have shot it my first time if there was a clean needle available."

One wouldn't believe that Amanda, a 23-year-old Western transfer student, had ever seen the dark days of heroin addiction. Against the background of her dimly lit apartment, a faceless DJ spins bubble-gum punk on the campus radio station.

Amanda seems relaxed, comfortable and confident.

She lights up a cigarette as she

recounts earlier days of seclusion and heroin-induced euphoria.

"I told myself I'd never do heroin," says Amanda. "My aunt is in jail for selling it, and it's a real hardship on my family. It was personal, but then again it was never put in front of my face. A friend came over and asked if he could shoot up. I said sure and then my curiosity got the best of me."

"The first time I didn't feel anything, but the second time was very powerful...wow!" adds Amanda. "It was this amazing mellowness and relaxed feeling that put me in a different place."

It wasn't like coke or anything—totally opposite."

Heroin is back — not just as the stuff of isolated incidents, but an honest-to-god trend. It's still a street drug, but it has extended its tentacles into areas where it wasn't known before.

How does it happen—how does a fresh-faced teenager from middle-class America turn into a junkie? Amanda explains it as the boredom of life coupled with drugs—its partner in negation—surrounded in ecstatic details of euphoria.

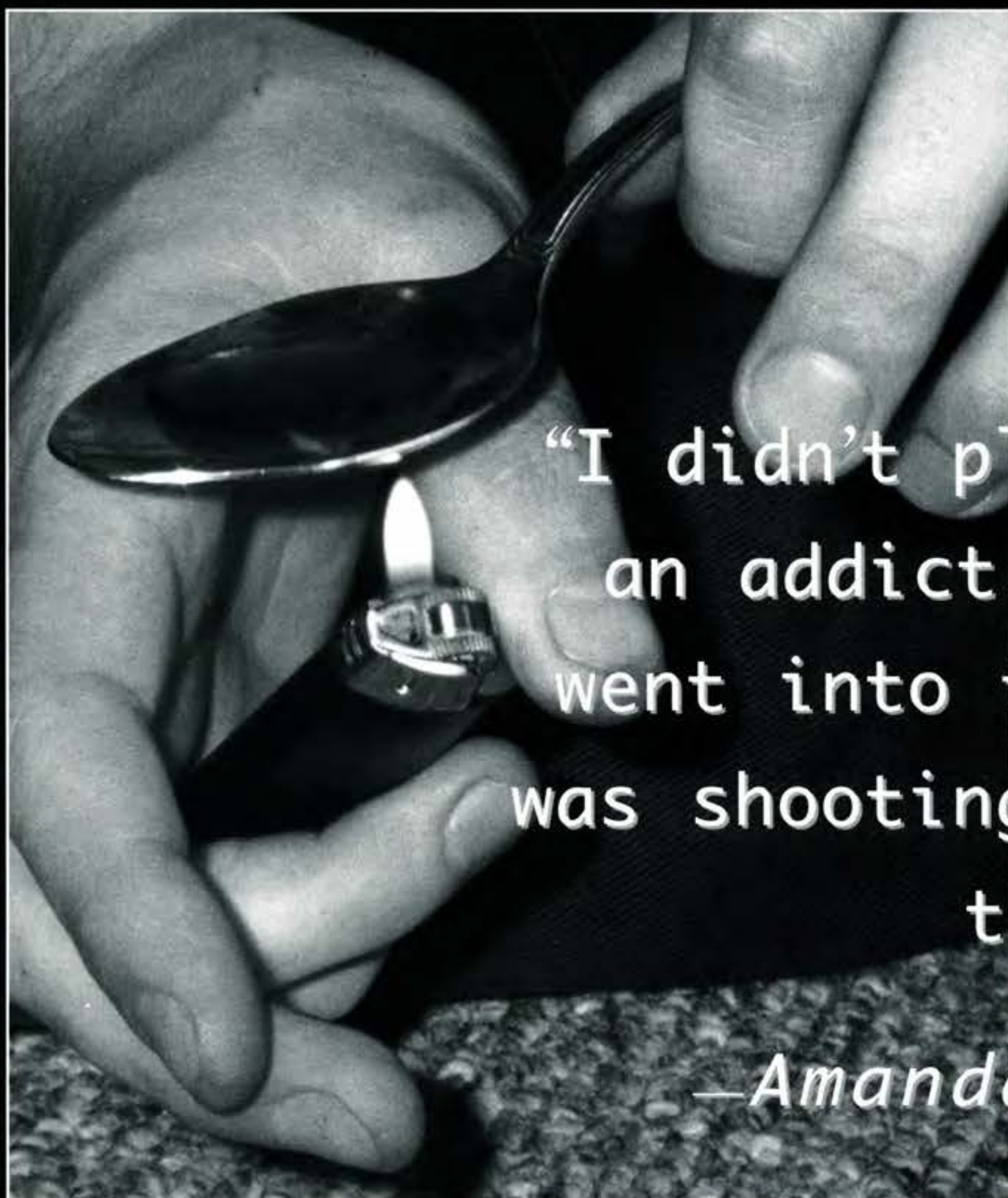
If they're doing Ecstasy at 15, she says, they'll be doing cocaine at 16 and then they'll go on to heroin; it's a natural progression.

"Cocaine had always been my drug of choice, but my supplier left and I was ready for something new," says Amanda. "I didn't plan on being an addict. I did it once or twice a week for about a month. Then it became once a day, which turned into ten times a day. Before I went in to treatment, I was shooting up fifteen times a day."

"I secluded myself to just my using friends," continues Amanda. "I didn't like to be around people who weren't using. I felt like I couldn't talk to them anymore. I felt on a different level."

"My television was my best friend," she says. "I kept it on 24 hours a day. I'd pass out, wake up at 5 a.m., and shoot up."

Amid the rising use of heroin is a thorny paradox. Part of heroin's



"I didn't plan on being an addict....Before I went into treatment, I was shooting up fifteen times a day."

—Amanda

allure lies in its destructiveness—and part of that appeal is the intravenous path.

"Using a needle was overcoming a fear," says Amanda. "Then the ritual of shooting up—tying off your arm, preparing the needle, getting the cotton, heating the spoon—becomes very enticing."

Drug education programs concentrate too much on alcohol, marijuana and the more generic drugs, neglecting heroin's dangers, says a representative from Western's Drug Information Center. As a result, the drug has acquired almost a romantic mystique, especially on campus.

Addiction rates fluctuate, but the fact remains that many college students experiment with drugs. Drug use tends to appear anywhere young people find themselves with extra money, time to kill and a job that keeps the real world at a track-marked arm's length.

"I choose to be in this environment," says Amanda. "I can go around people who don't drink and don't use, but this is a college town and you start to miss your friends, parties and just going out."

The short-term effects of heroin addiction are obvious on fresh young users—the sweaty craving, the weight loss from not eating, the obsession with the next jolt of junk.

"Mostly, the enduring effect was the scratching. I scratched the living shit out of myself," says Amanda. "I'd scratch my eyes—everything itched."

"It started out as \$50 every day or so—just a few shots off a

half-gram," says Michael. "As you go on, your tolerance just jumps. I can barely get high anymore. I'll do a half-gram a day just to keep from getting sick. If I wanna get high, I'll take a fat shot to start my day and then I'll mellow."

On the road to addiction, there are no spiritual quests; the highs are purely visceral, the lows even more so.

"I overdosed on a speedball and thought I was going to die," says Amanda. "I shot up and my heart started pounding. I ran to the bathroom and threw up. I was lying on the bathroom floor in convulsions. My whole body shook from the inside out. I couldn't breathe and puke was coming out of my mouth. I would have called 911 if there wasn't someone there to watch me and make sure I didn't go out."

After undergoing treatment and medical detoxification in a rehabilitation facility last summer, Amanda got off heroin.

"I was at a friend's house one day, and he cut an ad out of the yellow pages for the treatment center, handed it to me, told me to put it by my phone and to call when I was ready. Two days later, I went in for an assessment.

"Of course, I was high. I shot up before I went. I was hysterical and bawling. They wanted to admit me right then, but I hadn't even told my family."

"It's still a constant battle in my mind," says Amanda. "There's still a part of me that wants to use and I have to fight with it. I have an addict's mind."

Experimenting with heroin is "a door that most folks with heroin histories will tell you 'don't open,'" says Bellingham



"I'll do a half-gram a day just to keep from getting sick."

— Michael

Drug Abuse Prevention Coordinator and recovering heroin addict James Marx.

Marx warns even those drug users who are able to avoid addiction are playing pharmacological roulette: they never know when circumstances and psychological needs are going to send them plummeting into the black hole of addiction.

"I couldn't get off of heroin on my own. It was too easy to get—only a phone call away," says Amanda. "Every time I tried, the anxiety would get to be too much and I'd be on the phone again."

"Heroin is definitely cheaper and very easy to get," says Marx. "The drug is now more economical and today's heroin is purer. Twenty years ago, dope was only three to four percent pure. Now heroin is turning up with purity levels as high as 80 percent."

The warm, mesmerizing euphoria can now be achieved in more user-friendly ways due to the increased purity. Snorting or smoking—even suppositories—has lowered the needle barrier (a barrier raised by the fear of HIV and AIDS). Anyone from street kids to yuppies can get hooked on heroin, says Marx.

"Bellingham is pretty near Seattle, which is, like, the heroin capital of America. You can get it anywhere around here," says Marx. "We just had a 15-year-old kid come in addicted to heroin. That says a lot about availability."

"A heroin addict can spot another heroin addict," says Amanda. "Just go to Capitol Hill in Seattle and you can pick 'em out of the crowd. You just see it in their eyes and you know who to ask."

Marx relapsed three years ago. He now helps others to avoid the rising heroin epidemic reminiscent of the 1970s. The press has been ever more insistently saying that drugs are making a splashy resurgence and that "smack is back."

While there are no reliable national statistics, authorities report increases in heroin-related arrests and hospital admissions nationwide.

"I met all kinds of people in treatment," says Amanda, "from a 15-year-old boy to a 75-year-old man. They all have a story about how drugs have affected their lives."

"It's strong and it's getting bigger," says Michael. "I know at least a dozen people who get high on a regular basis, but everyone I know who does heroin is in college and works hard. We're still getting stuff done."

"There are Mormons and Christians out there who think that smoking pot is the worst of evils and people smoking pot think nothing of it," explains Michael. "And the people who smoke pot think heroin is one of the worst things to hit the streets. People overreact to what they don't understand. Until people try it or have a very open mind, it's hard to have a relationship or at least one that isn't superficial."

Heroin use still bears the cross of misery, mortality and recklessness.

"People geek about it," says Michael. "It's unfair. I realize they're concerned, but people who don't use and find out that their friends do try to make it into a soap opera—to the point of cutting them off and making them feel like shit in certain circles. The point is it's heroin—the big H."

What's In the Cards?

It was probably two years ago that I first noticed them. They had always been there, but at a small county fair, or at a back room in an old building. They had always been regarded as amusing, whimsical, but never ever taken seriously. Who could've predicted that they would've grown to be this big? Well, obviously they did. And who are they? They are the people who have created the biggest boom in 900- and 976-numbers since Susie, Sally and Donna became "BIG, BOLD, BEAUTIFUL BABES." They are the people who now hold fairs and conventions in every major city, town and stop light. They are the people who have celebrities endorsing them and influential public figures asking for their advice. They are the people whom millions have viewed with skepticism but now call everyday in faith. They are psychics.

I had always been curious about psychics. There had been a shop specializing in mysticism and the supernatural in the mall. Local psychics would come and sit at a little table and for \$20 perform a reading. I passed by several times and even went in once, but curious as I was, I wasn't willing to waste money on someone who probably didn't tell me anything other than the ambiguous, "I see change in your future." No kidding. Needless to say, I never went, and believed I was like the majority of America, skeptical and disbelieving. But as I see the commercials for psychic networks increase and flyers advertising local psychics at every corner, I become bewildered. Because as everyone knows, no business can succeed unless there are customers willing to buy. And make no mistake about it, at \$4.99 a minute and up to \$50 a reading, this is a very profitable business.

Who, then, are the people that seek out

from these sessions? And most importantly, who are these so-called "psychics" and who or what qualifies them to call themselves psychics?

So here I wait on a Friday evening at Bellis Fair on my self-directed, self-produced and self-cast search for the truth. My contact: local psychic Carol Sumner. I had spoken to Sumner on the phone for just a few minutes, yet in that brief period she came across as personable, down-to-earth and genuinely interested in my project. She even went out of her way to meet me at the mall, instead of having me drive out to her home in Ferndale.

As I stand amidst an ever-growing crowd, people pass me to place an order at one of the many fast-food stands or to rush into the movie theater. She approaches me purposefully, and looks at me quizzically. "Carol?" I ask. She nods and smiles.

Well of course she must have known it was me; she's a psychic. "I saw you walking around with a notepad in your hand, so I figured it was you," she says. Oh.

We walk toward a table in the back of the food court to get away from what is fast becoming a dull roar. She had come to the mall early to go shopping and she showed me one of her purchases: a tiny ceramic bluebird in a glass globe, which snows bits of white particles when shaken.

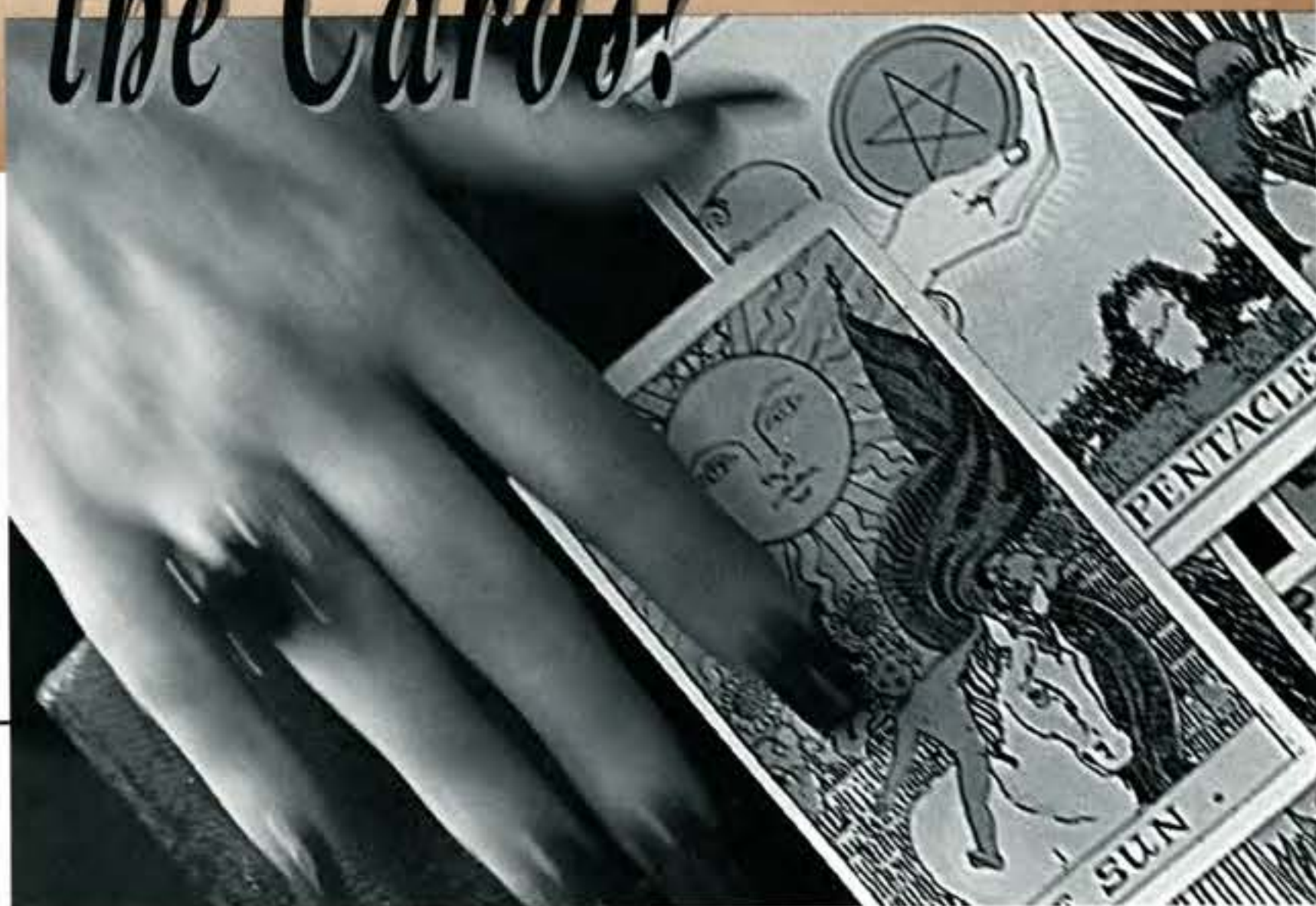
"I'm gonna call it my crystal ball," she cracks.

Wearing black slacks and a yellow blouse, Sumner seems a bit overdressed for simple mall strolling, so I assume her choice of garb is for the benefit of my presence. She wears dark black-rimmed glasses, reminiscent of Sophia Loren. On her left hand she wears a huge purple ring. She comments on her hair, which is a mass of yellow, red and orange. "I went to the beauty salon the other day and... well I got a cross between Cyndi Lauper and the Lion King." We both laugh at her expense. She continues to discharge a series of one-liners in what seems like a cynical, slightly self-deprecating sense of humor. She is doing her best to make us both feel comfortable, treating me as if I were an old pal stopping by, instead of a stranger about to ask her a series of personal questions.

Which I now do.

"I didn't decide to become a psychic," she corrects. "I just was."

Born in Arkansas, and raised in California, Sumner explains how she started seeing spirits at the age of five. She told her parents, who said simply not to tell anybody. Growing up she had premonitions of people dying. She was able to predict every death in the family within a 24-hour period. Sumner feels her powers are a blessing and a curse. "It's a lot of responsibility," she



Klipsun/Tim Klein

Naomi Dillon deals with doubts under the guide of a local psychic

states, nodding her head in agreement with herself.

What powers do you possess? Since you predict the future, are you clairvoyant?

"Yes, yes I guess you could call it that... I also hear and talk to spirits. Telepathic? Yeah, I can read people's minds, but I try not to," she adds wryly with a shake of her head. From that point on I try to keep my mind as blank as I can.

Currently Sumner does readings on an appointment basis in a beauty salon on Northwest Avenue.

"Oh, my clients come from all walks of life. From the police chief to members of the Catholic churches to regular housewives. About 20 percent of them come to me just for entertainment, but the other 80 percent are dead serious. I do general readings and then give them time to ask me any questions they have." Questions

create their own life."

Sumner practices and believes her psychic powers are spiritually based.

"We are a soul and a spirit, and people need to stand up to their spiritual self and connect with it."

Sumner encourages all her clients to meditate and to connect with their god, no matter what god it is.

To illustrate her point, she recounts the story of a stockbroker who called her frequently for advice.

She told him she would do his readings if he promised to do his prayers and meditate. Needless to say, he did.


This caused me to raise a point I've never quite understood. If you can tell the future, why aren't you profiting from it? Why don't you invest in the stock market? Obviously, you would know when it would rise or fall.

The corners of her mouth slowly lift in an indulgent smile, "I make sure I don't use my powers to harm anyone."

But playing the stock market wouldn't harm anyone, I reason.

"Yeah, but it feels good to help people... and this is the tool I use to help them," Sumner says simply, a tone of finality in her voice.

As we leave the now-congested mall, I thank Sumner for her time. She admits to me that I am only the second person she has granted an interview to in her entire career as a psychic, wary of the press due to past events and inaccurate reports. I am stunned. I am only the second!

"I knew when you called that I was supposed to meet with you," Sumner states with a certainty few people possess. But then again she is a psychic, I reason with a certainty of my own. 

"I tell people that I'm not God, you know, and I encourage people to look within for answers. They have free will to create their own life."

about love and money are common, Sumner says, but aren't exclusive.

"I remember a woman came to me once and asked me when her husband was going to die. She said she wanted to know because she wanted to make arrangements," Sumner recounts, "but I didn't tell her."

Sumner charges \$30 for 20 minutes and \$50 for 30 minutes. Of course, the price is a bit steeper for things like spirit harassments (exorcisms) and UFO abductions. Quite a business, the cynic in me says, and I ask what she thinks about people who have to talk to a psychic everyday. Does she think that's excessive, abnormal? Or just good business, I think.

"Yes, I think that's strange," she says plainly. Sumner in fact discourages people from coming to her too often. No one should be addicted to a psychic, she says.

"There are some psychics who practice without a conscience, and for those people you need to look at what's their motivation," Sumner shoots back, shrugging her shoulders and raising her eyebrows.

"I tell people that I'm not God, you know, and I encourage people to look within for answers. They have free will to



Klipsun/Tim Klein

THE KID RAP



Danny Heistand explores the conflict and chaos of working with kids.

Photos by Tim Klein

Nestled away in the not-so-cozy confines of Bellis Fair Mall is a bunch of kids' playground stuff — crazy contraptions bowing down to the innate fantasies of children too busy to pay attention to the cluttered world of merchandise and marketing.

Designed to provide relief for parents suffering overexposure to mall life and their children, the play area has also given a countless number of kids hours of pleasure. Like every good playground, this playground has a theme: squishiness.

Squishy lunchtime goodies, to be exact.

One of the many utilizing the squishiness is little Kiana Tannehill. Her eyes grow wide as she bursts toward the squishy granola bar in a blur of energy. Carlton Tannehill rises from the seat he shares with his wife to check on the 2-foot bundle of movement that just scooted past him. Kiana shows her big pearly smile, which accents her pig-tailed hair and pink and white polka-dot dress, as she looks up at her daddy from the squishy support the plastic granola bar has to offer.

"Yes, she's a free spirit," says Carlton, Kiana's father, keeping one eye honed on Kiana as he speaks. Carlton says that Kiana loves to run free at the squishy park, but she also knows how to behave.

"You pretty much talk to her like you talk to another person," says Carlton, who is on

patrol again as little Kiana mounts the white, plastic rocking horse just outside the confines of the area.

"She's a great listener," says Margaret Tannehill, Kiana's mother.

In the background, a shirtless, chubby toddler does a flip over the side of the squishy sandwich, while a girl sucks her fin-

"We get the ones that are perfect, and then we get the ones that don't even want to sit in front of the camera and would rather run out and play on the 'wonderful' little machine-toy things in front of our store," says Westover, a three-year employee and assistant manager at the photography studio. "Sometimes, we manage to get 'em (before they escape), and sometimes we don't."

THE 'ONES' AND THE 'EM'

Who or what are these ones and 'em Westover is talking about? Criminals? Circus freaks? Wild animals? At times, possibly all of the above.

Kids. Plain and simple. For Westover's studio, as well as several other types of businesses, kids are the staple to maintaining a livelihood. Love them or not, dealing with kids is just a part of the job requirements for many people every day.

During the time Westover has been working at the Bellis Fair photo shop, she has seen kids — and more — come and go.

"We do it all," says Westover, also a student at Western. "We deal with children, we deal with adults, we deal with teenagers, we deal with animals and just try to get them happy."

Westover estimated her studio sees as few as one child per day and as many as 50.

"We don't really want to try and control the



Jodene Bammert poses a young customer for her portrait.

gers and watches the acrobatic toddler complete the flip. By this time, Carlton rustles his 'cowgirl' Kiana back to the granola bar.

Rachel Westover stands just inside the well-lit entrance of Expressly Portraits Inc. as she looks out over the squishy playground just a few feet away. To Westover, the indoor playground is a tool of the enemy: distraction from the job she is trying to do.

kids," Westover says. "We'd rather have them be who they are in the picture, 'cause that's usually what the parents want. But it's just getting them happy and keeping them entertained, I guess. Keeping their attention is more of what we do than anything else. That's really important, and we will do anything to do that."

CANDIES, BALLOONS AND TABLE DANCING

Sandy Mellott, director of clinical services at Madrona Medical Group in Bellingham, deals with kids on a regular basis. For the



last eight years, Mellott has worked as a pediatric nurse. During her tenure in the medical field, she has dealt with all kinds of children.

"I would say the large majority of kids that come in are well-controlled by their parents," says Mellott, who sees between 20 and 30 kid-patients per day. "If they understand the rules, they are pretty well behaved."

By no stretch of the imagination does Mellott think that all kid-patients are perfect, though. Sometimes, she says, fear plays a role in disruption that may take place. The threat of a cold, metallic rod piercing the flesh (a shot) or threadlike material tying up an open and bloody wound (stitches) is enough to shock even the most veteran patients.

"I've actually had young men, at 11, climb behind a table and get in a corner and wither," Mellott says with a compassionate smile.

In her effort to ease the discomfort of kids' hospital visits, Mellott has resorted to various forms of negotiating, including bribery — usually with bubble gum and stickers.

Like Mellott, Janice Milholland knows all about negotiating. Milholland teaches 4 and 5-year-old kids at the Child Development Center for Western Washington University, a setting that

involves working with 29 children.

During her work with the children at the center, she has ended up in various positions on the negotiating table.

Sometimes even under it.

"Sometimes the kids become unhappy and might crawl underneath a table," says Milholland. "I will crawl under the table with them and talk to them...and just explain to them, 'I see you are unhappy.'"

For the most part, Milholland says the kids at the center behave well.

"People and life skills are taught to the students," Milholland says. "Like if you're getting in a fight over a toy, do you scream and punch one another, or do you negotiate for the toy? There is a lot of different ways to negotiate for the toy."

Comedy is another tactic that can be used to manipulate, says Westover.

Westover admits that she has resorted to zany antics involving stuffed animals, making goofy faces, and "acting stupid."

Anything for a smile.

"A lot of times, they won't respond to me



because I'm a stranger, so we'll just have the parents get behind the camera and make goofy faces or whatever," she says.

POWER IN NUMBERS

Are kids really the ones in charge?

Mellott believes the number of kids involved in a situation has a definite impact on how much havoc can, and is, raised.

"Usually disruption by one child is tolerable. Disruption by a group of children is intolerable."

"If there is a large number of kids in the exam room, it can get out of control. Often times, decreasing the numbers will decrease the amount of disruption," says Mellott. "They feed off of each other."

Mellott believes parents' upbringing of their kids has a lot to do with how a child acts when in the office.

"If you have parents that don't set limits (for their kids) in the waiting room, often times they are not going to set limits for them in the exam room," she says.

Westover agrees. "Personally, I just wonder how they were raised," says Westover. "I would never bring my kids in and let them act like that [disruptive]. Professionally, it just comes with the job. You just see them all and you have to deal with it. And if you can't, usually that's when you say (to the parents), 'I'm gonna let you deal with this.'"

CHILDREN AS BIRTH CONTROL?

Back at the Madrona medical offices, Mellott chimes in her kid pet peeves.

"When the children are constantly interrupting, it's annoying. It's not something I think is wrong. I think all children do it. It's just one of those things that kind of grates on you," says Mellott, a mother herself.

"You think, 'If you could just sit there and be quiet for just one minute! Let us get this conversation over with, and then you can talk,'" says Mellott, who admits her own kids have done the same things she finds annoying. Inside Expressly Portraits, Westover vents her frustrations further.

"(It annoys me) when I grab something to catch their attention, and they want to hold it, but they won't smile or behave unless I give it to them. Of course, I don't want it in



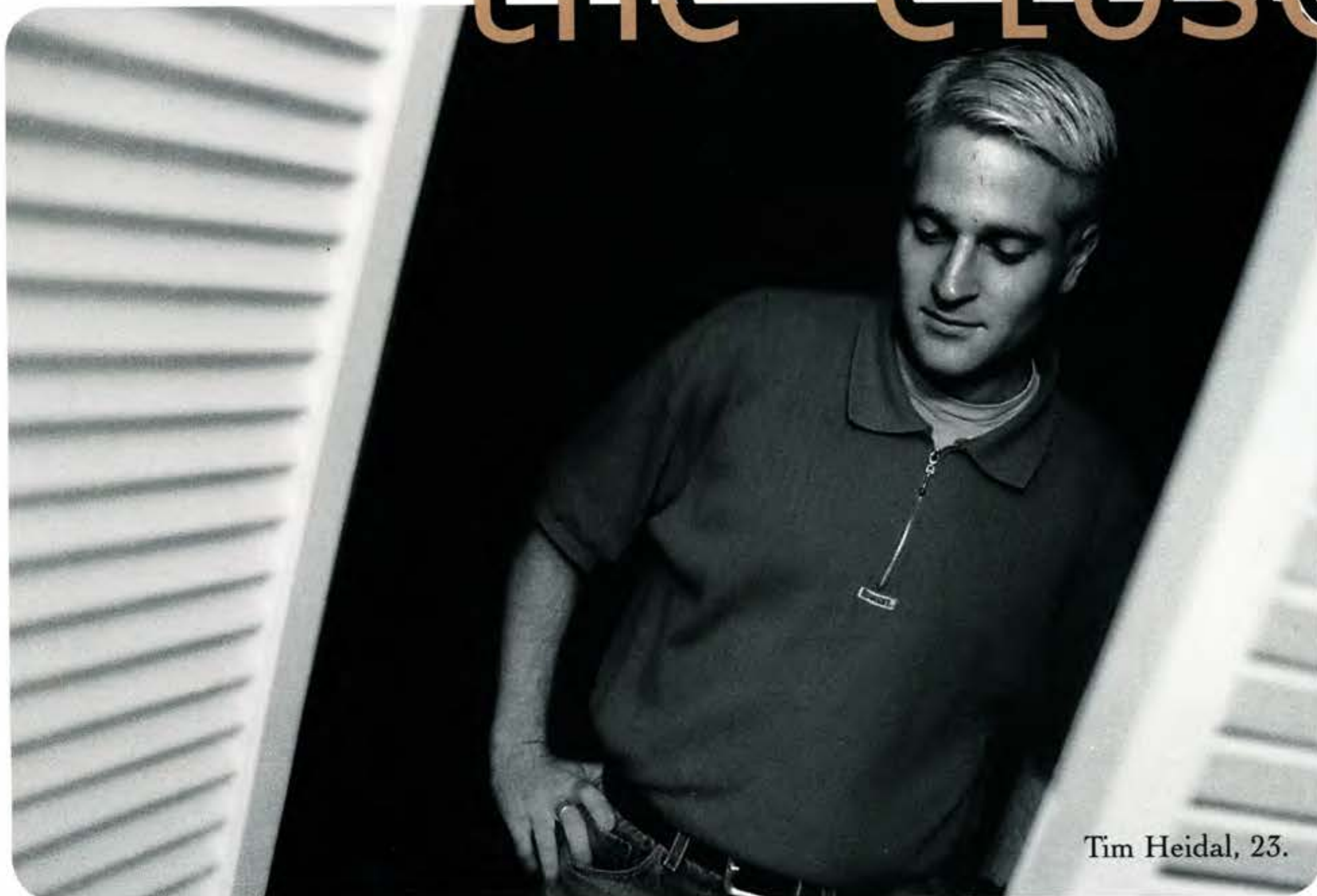
the picture. So I have to give it to them to make them happy, but I have to take it away to take the picture."

Looking out on the kid-laden squishy playground, Westover mulls over the idea of having kids herself. The mulling is not for very long, and she is candid in the aftermath of her reflection.

"This job makes me not want to have kids," she says with a chuckle.



breathing outside of the closet



Tim Heidal, 23.

Agendas aside, Erica Christensen
hears the
stories of several
students living gay at Western.

Photos by Tim Klein

This summer I was with my best friend, Jana, at her cabin on Lake Samish. We were playing in the water with a 10-year-old girl named Sam.

The three of us were sitting on Styrofoam noodle toys in the lake and Sam began to ask us questions about boys. She was having a great time hanging out with us, listening to our stupid stories.

Then she asked me, "Do you know anybody who is gay?"

My 26-year-old sister had just come out of the closet a month earlier, so I told her my sister was gay.

Sam couldn't believe it. She told me to stop lying, and I promised her that it was true.

She yelled up to Jana's mom, who was gardening in front of the cabin, "Is Erica's sister gay?"

Jana's mom yelled back "Yes," and Sam was in shock. She didn't know what to say.

Then Sam began to laugh. "Does she try to kiss you?" she asked.

I told her no and then asked her if her brothers tried to kiss her. She laughed again and understood.

My sister came out of the closet to me over the phone. We talk almost every day. One night she called when I was about to run out the door to have dinner with my mom.

She told me she needed to tell me something and asked me if I wanted to hear it now or later. I said to her, "Either somebody died, or you're gay." The latter of the two was true.

My sister lives in Honolulu, where the state supreme court has ruled that Hawaii must demonstrate a "compelling state interest" to deny same-sex marriages.

Most other states, including Washington, still refuse to recognize homosexuals as having the same rights as other citizens. As far as our country's legislature is concerned, homosexuals have no rights. With the recent defeat in Congress of the federal job discrimination bill and President Clinton's signing of the Defense Of Marriage Act (DOMA), gay issues are at the forefront of our nation's concerns. DOMA says that even if Hawaii endorses same-sex marriages, other states would not have to.

Underneath all the factional disputes and legislative battles, though, are people who simply want to love who they choose without needing government approval.

JASON

Jason Siperly, coordinator for Western Washington University's Lesbian/Gay/Bisexual Alliance, says he personally believes that DOMA was cooked up by the right wing just for the election year. He is not completely impressed with Clinton, he says, but we don't

have any better choices.

"I don't think that he's a bad guy, but I don't personally believe that he's a competent president. I think that he's trying. I sure wish Hilary was in there ... if everybody didn't hate her so much."

Siperly is a 26-year-old archeology major, who is close to becoming a senior. He was "out" to his friends in high school, but it quickly got around school. He received enough harrassment from people that he dropped out his sophomore year.

Siperly said he always considers his high school days an experiment in social terror.

"I got it worse because, well, I was also punk rock," Siperly said. "I had a bad time in high school. You know, it really sucks to be a gay boy with a hot pink mohawk at Lynnwood High School."

Siperly says gays are discriminated against daily. The vandalism on LGBA's reader board proves his point. The anti-gay message reads "gays deserve no rights."

"To me that just sends the message that while we are getting our voice out, it's not getting out everywhere and that there are still people out there who are really still...I guess pretty ignorant. I mean, I hate to be down on people, but that's where it comes across," Siperly says.

TIM

Tim Heidal, a 23-year-old business management major from Puyallup, has been out of the closet for about a year. He grew up a very shy child, almost to the point of dysfunction, he says. When he got to Western, he dated a woman for about a year and a half. He was convinced he would live a "normal life."

When he finally realized that was not the case, he told his girlfriend. She took him to LGBA meetings for the rest of the year. They are still very close.

Heidal now lives in a cozy house near campus with his two roommates. Halloween pumpkins from his landlord's kids cover the front porch.

He jokes that he does not have any friends, but the message board in the kitchen and the pictures around his room prove him wrong.

He is embarrassed to show his room because, he says, it's a pig sty and he hasn't finished unpacking yet. Like many college students' rooms, clothes are scattered across the floor and papers are spread around his room. A picture of Heidal and his ex-boyfriend in drag last Halloween hangs on the wall next to his bed, along with a picture of his ex-girlfriend.

Heidal got married to his ex-boyfriend on Western's campus last year in a mock ceremony performed by gay radio-show host and



Her mother said no and Amy told her she did.

"She supported me in it and that's key—to have support in going through something like this. It can really affect the outcome of you, of how you're going to turn out, whether you're stable emotionally."

Now Amy lives in a spotless Bellingham house overlooking the bay. She

shares the house with three other women she did not know before she moved in. The kitchen cupboards are labeled with numbers which mark each of the four women's storage space. "It keeps the house from getting chaotic," says Amy, "the landlord did it ... I'm number one in this house, that's kind of nice."

Amy sits drinking peppermint tea at a kitchen table while her roommates watch an NBC TV movie.

"I had a bad time in high school. You know it really sucks to be a gay boy with a hot pink mohawk at Lynnwood High School"

—Jason Siperly

columnist, Dan Savage.

He says he and his ex-boyfriend were more interested in making a point than anything else.

Heidal says the gay community in Bellingham is very small. He talks about his recent three-month trip to Europe, where he experienced the gay life in London and in Barcelona, which he heard is the gay capital of the world. He had never been anywhere beyond the west coast.

He was shocked when he saw gay couples walking hand in hand down the street. He says he wouldn't feel comfortable holding hands with another man in Bellingham, especially on campus.

"I like thinking about it. I don't know that I'd feel comfortable doing it, but I think it's just the excitement. I don't like to say shock value, but just feeling proud walking through campus holding somebody's hand, not really caring about anybody else, but just feeling proud that I could do that."

Heidal looks forward to the day when he wouldn't get any thrill out of it, when he wouldn't even have to think about it.

"AMY"

"Amy" is a 23-year-old woman originally from Winthrop, Wash., who won't reveal her real name because she fears job discrimination. She played collegiate basketball in Illinois and Kansas at three Methodist schools, where she studied recreation business management.

Amy said she was in a very conservative atmosphere for four years and did not really think about how she felt about her sexuality. She signed a covenant which said, among other things, no homosexuality. She had no problem abiding by those rules as long as she was there, but she knew the whole time that she had feelings for women.

Driving back from her college graduation in Illinois, Amy asked her mother if she ever had feelings for other women.

She just recently told the last of her roommates that she was a lesbian.

"I feel like when you're telling people you have to have a really good sense of how they feel about it before you bring it up and knowing that information, you have to really cater to that situation, everything is different. The way I talked to each one was totally, completely different."

Amy said she thinks she knew as far back as grade school that she was not straight.

"It was really funny because I was attracted to girls, but in a very simple way. It's always been very simple. Even still it's not so much the sexual part, it's like this total *intimacy* draw to me, this total emotional bonding that's the key to it."

"People, they make too much of a deal about how different it is from heterosexuality, and it's really not. Take a step back and be realistic about it. My roommate has a hard time meeting guys and I'm having a hard time meeting women. It's the same world ... I love people, I fall in love with people, I just happen to love women."

MARA

Mara Eaton, 24, is studying women's studies, economics, Chinese and Spanish. Someday she hopes to be a translator for women refugees.

"Women with language barriers are so much more vulnerable, sometimes, to domestic violence. No one advocates for them."

Eaton, the assistant coordinator of LGBA, says "queer" people in abusive relationships are in a double closet, if they are in a closet in the first place.

If they are not "out" to anyone, they are certainly not going to tell anyone that they are being abused.

She sits on a table in the bottom floor of Fairhaven College while someone learns to play piano in the background. She tells about the first time she realized that she was attracted to people of the same sex.

"I thought something was wrong and sometimes it seems queer people think, 'Oh my god, something's not the same about me.' That was in high school when I was 13 or 14."

Eaton went to an all-girl high school in Maryland and sensed she was different from most of the other girls. She didn't say anything because she knew what was safe and what was not.

She dated a guy in high school whom she cared for sincerely.

"I really loved him. I loved him and I suggested that—this probably sounded so strange to him—I'd be *willing* to have sex with him because I loved him," she says. "He sensed that that really didn't sound right to him, which is just as well. I mean, it certainly would not have converted me. He accepted me for what I was, which was really awesome."

Still, Eaton didn't think about calling herself a lesbian until about two years ago.

Now, she is involved in a relationship with a woman who lives in London. She is going to visit her in December.

"She has really encouraged me in ways that I've never been encouraged before, it has had a strong effect on me."

Eaton says she thinks of every single part of herself as much more naturally connected to a woman than a man.

"I was born with the capacity to be sexually attracted to men and women. I think that's natural for everyone, but then the part of maturity of your sexual orientation is about your spirit too."

"It's about the whole, it's about all of you—with whom you can communicate and with whom you can feel secure, and thusly feel really awesome in a sexual way."

"I don't think it's possible to be really fully sexual with anyone with whom you're insecure."



"...the part of maturity of your sexual orientation is about your spirit too. It's about the whole."

—Mara Eaton



MARRIED... WITH HOMEWORK

Amy Scribner
uncovers the
motivation behind
student marriages.
What drives
them to say
"I do?"



Chris and Michelle Salazar

This is the true story of people who chose to get married at a time in life when most people are still learning to deal with just themselves. They're married college students, and yes, they are among us.

Most Western students are oblivious to their presence, and with good reason: they are a minority. In 1960, among people 30 to 34, 6.9 percent of women and 11.9 percent of men had never married. By 1992, the rates of non-marriage in these age groups had increased: 18.8 percent for women and 29.4 percent of men. This delay in marriage, at least among women, is attributed mainly to increased investments in education and careers.

So why, when these students are in the prime of their lives, and in the midst of the largest dating pool they'll ever encounter, with no pressure to wed, do they do so anyway? The obvious answer, of course, would be love. And while this did play a role in each couples' decision, other reasons were at work as well. From the mouths of the married, here are their stories.



Klipoun/Kevin Rao

"My family dealt with it pretty well. But they were pretty taken aback by the whole 'Alright, we're going to get married next Tuesday. Nobody's invited.'"

Perry & Jen

From the wedding to work

"We spend a lot of time together," Perry admits. "The other day, we went to get my hair cut. I told the barber just to make it look like hers. So we're even starting to look alike."

Perry Parsons and Jennifer Joseph are a couple in every sense of the word. They're not only married, they work together, participate in extracurricular activities together and hang out with friends together.

"When we're in class, that's when we don't see each other," says Perry.

"Unless we have class together," Jen adds.

Sitting in the office of the A.S. Environmental Center — where, of course, they both work, Perry as coordinator and Jennifer as assistant coordinator — Jen and Perry look every bit the part of average college students, from baggy jeans to backpacks.

They do indeed have the same hair — a short-in-back, bangs-stuck-in-eyelashes look; Perry's a dark blonde to Jen's dark brown. Not even rings to set them apart as anything more than two undergrads. "We just didn't have any money," Jen explains.

"Sorry the office is a disaster. We're reorganizing from the bottom up," Perry says.

The back wall is filled mainly with stacks of white boxes, filled with back issues of magazines, and a coffee table covered with environmental pamphlets showcasing various clear-cuttings. Whale songs come



Klipoun/Kevin Rao

from a tape player on a corner shelf. Jen and Perry inherited the mess in August, when they began working here. As Huxley students, this work interests them both.

"We are pretty much resolved that we are going to be poor all our lives and just work for non-profit organizations," says Jen.

Jen and Perry got married in December, 1994, after dating since their sophomore year of high school, but the two are quick to put an end to any dreamy musings about the romance of it all. They remember their anniversary only because of one important fact.

"We kept procrastinating, so it must have been December because we wanted to get married in that tax year," explains Perry. "It was right at the end of the fiscal year."

"We were basically operating as a married couple, but we weren't getting any of the financial benefits of being a married couple," Jen says.

"So while we were supporting ourselves much in the way that married folks were,

we weren't considered independent. So we decided to go ahead and get married just because it would make a lot of sense between us, with paying tuition."

"Really, the only thing that happened when we got married was that we combined our funds," Perry adds.

Lest anyone be disillusioned with such a sensible reason for marriage, consider the facts: independent college students, a category that includes married students, can qualify for double the amount of financial aid.

But this is usually in the form of loans, points out Christina Castorena of Western's financial resources office.

A dependent junior or senior, she says, has a cap of \$5,500 for loan money. But if a student is independent that limit is raised to \$10,500. Castorena stresses that gift money (any source that isn't repaid) is the same in either case.

"Students have to remember all of this federal money is taxpayer money. And if they're getting married to get more loans,

they'll be paying for it in the future," says Castorena. "I would hope students would get married for love, not for politics."

"The government right now only recognizes Christian marriages, and that's wrong," says Perry. "If a couple lives like a married couple, they ought to be treated like that by the government. Whether they're male and female or male and male or whatever."

"My mother was thrilled," he says. "She'd already known that Jennifer and I were life partners. The fact that we were going to have an easier time financially in her mind was a plus."

Jennifer's parents had a little harder time. "My family dealt with it pretty well," she says. "But they were pretty taken aback by the whole 'Alright, we're getting married next Tuesday. Nobody's invited.'"

"I think they would've liked to have had a say in where and when we were married, but all of my parents have been married and divorced before, so that's four people who have each had other marriages that failed. So my argument for them was it

governmental organization, Perry monitoring use of public lands. And as for Jen?

"I'll be doing everything else," she says with a laugh.

Chris & Michelle

Social Sacrifice

"We met bagging groceries. He was a big jerk and made me go out in the rain and get carts, and I instantly fell in love," she says.

"I said, 'That's a hard-working woman. I gotta marry her,'" says Chris.

Chris and Michelle Salazar are also Western students. Now 23, they're concurrently working on their two-year marriage and trying to graduate, not always in that order.

"We see each other when we wake up in the morning and blow-dry our hair, and when we fall into bed dead at night," says Michelle.

"Other than that, we're just so busy with other aspects of our life right now..."

"I could just tell everyone looked at me different.

obviously doesn't work that way."

With almost two years under their belt as husband and wife, Jen and Perry have discovered what does and doesn't work for them, including the realm of budgeting.

"I'll give you an example of what's not appropriate," says Perry, "and I speak from experience. Do not go out and buy a new skateboard, which costs about, oh, \$120. I got a bit too excited. We had bills to pay, and my making this purchase sort of put us in an awkward financial situation. But over time, it does become easier to gauge what is appropriate."

As for spending so much time together, Jen says, "The only problem I see with working together and living together and doing WESA (Western Endangered Species Alliance, of which they're both members) together is that at the end of the day I'm so exhausted from doing all this school stuff that I've sort of maxed out on my ability to deal with Perry; so we miss out on being together just because we want to be together."

No doubt in their minds, though, they'll be just as much a team in their future. They will both work for a non-profit, non-

They sit side by side in their unusually clean apartment. "He drives me crazy. He's like an obsessive neat freak," Michelle says.

Only her desk, covered with half-finished sketches and scattered brushes, pens and pencils, disrupts the perfect tidiness of their living room. A folded Mexican-print blanket covers their futon, and a large, dust-free entertainment system commands the majority of the room's space. Hootie and the Blowfish is the current selection; the rest of the CDs are organized neatly under the stereo.

"If the remote control is like this," Michelle says, moving it so that it hangs at a slightly precarious angle on the arm of the futon, "he'd have to fix it immediately."

They both laugh. They are comfortable with each other. They look at each other while answering questions, and overlap each other's sentences, often punctuating them with laughter.

Chris, a sociology major, exudes young Republican with his belted cords and a plaid button-down shirt. Michelle wears gray sweats, and her dark hair is pulled back.

Although getting married did help financially — "I went to get my financial aid check this year and it was so big," says Michelle — the two had other reasons.

"We were going to get married sometime anyway," says Michelle, "so the circumstances were just right. It seemed like why not get married when we could, which was in the summer, and go to school together?"

So they got married, and Michelle moved from Seattle to Bellingham. It was a relief, in more ways than one.

"We put like 15,000 miles on my car in three or four months, with Chris driving back and forth from Bellingham to Seattle," says Michelle.

"Also, we didn't feel like it was the right thing to do to live together first," says



See Teara.



See Nate.

Chris. "Literally, my mother would've flown up here and pulled me out (of school). And her father would have shot me."

Their marriage is surprisingly traditional. They waited until they were married to sleep together. They go to church together every Sunday. Michelle plans to work while Chris goes to graduate school, then help him to open a nursing home.

"Being the wife, I kind of have to wait for him to do what he's going to do before I get to do what I'm going to do," explains Michelle. "We kind of decided that when he wanted to start his business, we'd do it together."

"I want to be a good provider," says Chris. "I want Michelle not to have to work."

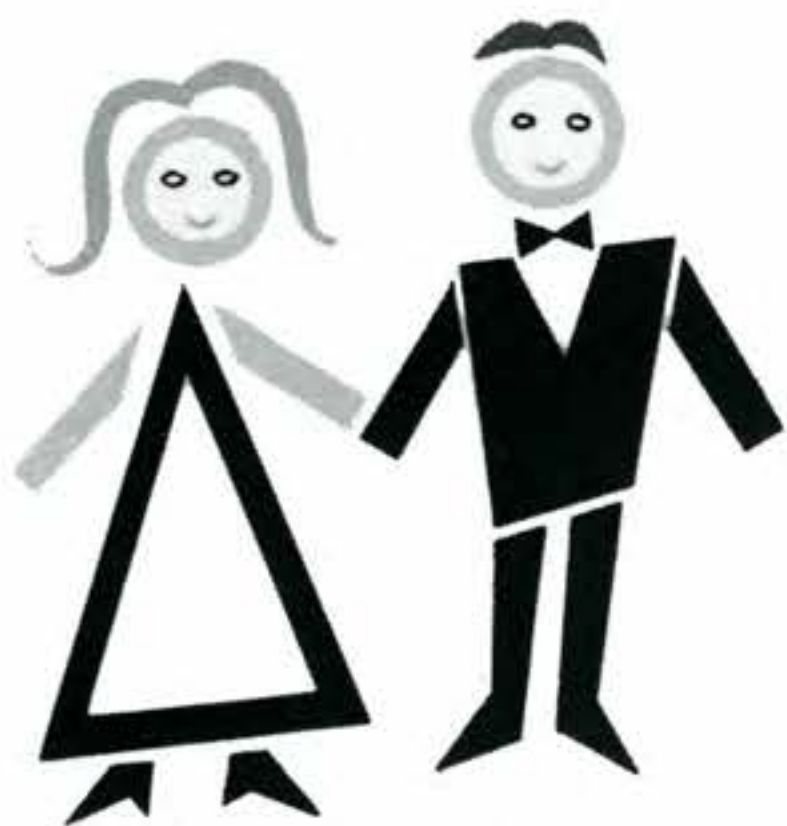
For now, the two are mainly focusing on graduating this year.

"College [as a married couple] has been

an interesting experience," says Chris. "Oftentimes, we feel like weirdos. We're the only people in class with our wedding bands. If I see some other guy in class with one, I'm like 'Thank you, God. There's someone else.'

"I think I thought it was gonna be easier than it is," he continues. "I'm basically a selfish person, and I've always been thinking about my betterment, and now I have to think about someone else's betterment before mine."

The biggest problem for Michelle, she says, is the pressure she feels to succeed in her marriage. "Not many people get married while in school, so we feel like we're running and running, trying to make it so we can say 'Ha! Look what we did.'"



See Teara and Nate Get Married.

There are always those skeptics, too, who wonder why Michelle and Chris chose to skip the social aspect of college.

"Michelle and I have been together as long as I've been at Western. So I've never had the freedom to go out and..."

"Pick up chicks?" asks Michelle.

"Exactly," Chris laughs. "So I guess I don't really feel I've missed out."

For Michelle, marriage has put an end to her college social life as she knew it.

"I used to go out a lot. I used to have a lot of different friends. Now I don't have any. Literally," she laughs. "I don't hang out much. Just Chris. And school. So socially, yeah, it's changed."

"You have to be able to integrate a married lifestyle into your college (experience), and make that part of the fun too," says Chris. "Marriage is our extracurricular activity."

The Salazars say mixing college and marriage isn't for everyone.

"By the time we're 25 or 26, we'll have been married a long time. So we'll have worked out the quirks that other people will just be getting started on," says Chris.

"But you have to be a strong person," says Michelle. "You have to think about your husband and studying and working so you can survive and make the car payment."

"We're given more roles than the average college student," Chris says. "I'm a son, but I'm also a husband now, and a student and a son-in-law."

"Once we graduate, I hope we won't have to juggle so many."

Teara & Nate

The Upcoming Event

Teara O'Haver is having a busy night. She has just gotten off work waitressing at Red Robin, and hasn't even taken time to change from her red polo shirt uni-

now. [Getting married] is mostly because of religious reasons. I was raised to, you know, not to be sexually active until I'm married.

"We don't feel right being in a relationship that I know we're gonna end up together and not move forward. It would be weird to want to get married and not take the next step forward. It's like walking in place."

"We've talked about everything," she continues. "Things will change socially. Nate's my best friend, but I'll always have my best girl friends. I'll still need my time to go out with the girls, and he needs to go out with the guys, so we'll feel complete."

Rather than adding more stress to the already-complicated life of a college student, O'Haver feels getting married will lead to less pressure.

"For one," she says, "I won't have to make separate time to spend with him. My time at home will be my time with him."

"And the only boundaries will be to love this person and be his best friend."

Obviously, not too many of our friends are married."

—Teara O'Haver, Western student

form. She needs to read for school, but also wants to call her fiancée, Nate Dillon, while he's still awake.

He works the morning shift at Costco, starting at 5 a.m., so he's often asleep by the time she gets home from work. She also needs to call her mom. There are still details to discuss about her December 22 wedding.

She sits cross-legged on her bedroom floor and pushes her blonde curls back. She is surrounded by textbooks and a box of 250 unaddressed wedding invitations.

"A lot of our friends were very surprised," she says. "I could just tell everyone looked at me different. They're happy, but it's a pushing away thing that's going to separate me from a lot of people. Obviously, not too many of our friends are married."

O'Haver and Dillon, both 21, are still more than a year away from graduating at Western, she with a degree in art education, he in business. He proposed on June 18, and they set the date for only six months later.

"We get a lot of 'Why?' from people," she says. "They can't imagine doing this

Financially, the two are still ironing out their game plan. "That's going to be difficult," she says, picking at her robin-egg blue nail polish.

"Right now, I have a savings, and Nate's living paycheck to paycheck, because he's gotta support himself more. So it's hard for him to accept money from me."

"Once we get married, it'll be like my money is his money. He needs help sometimes, and I'm willing to help him. And I know that anytime he has spare nickels and dimes, they go to me, so I don't worry about it."

The hardest part, she anticipates, will be to lose her independence.

"I've always depended so much on myself, and now there will be someone else. I'll think of Nate as the head of the household. That's what I believe. He gets the final say if it comes down to him and me definitely."

"We're really good at communicating, though, so I don't see any problems."

"It's going to be difficult in some ways," she adds. "But I don't think anyone who goes into a marriage doesn't know what they're doing."



ESCAPE CONTROLLED CUSTODY



INCENDIARY GRENADE

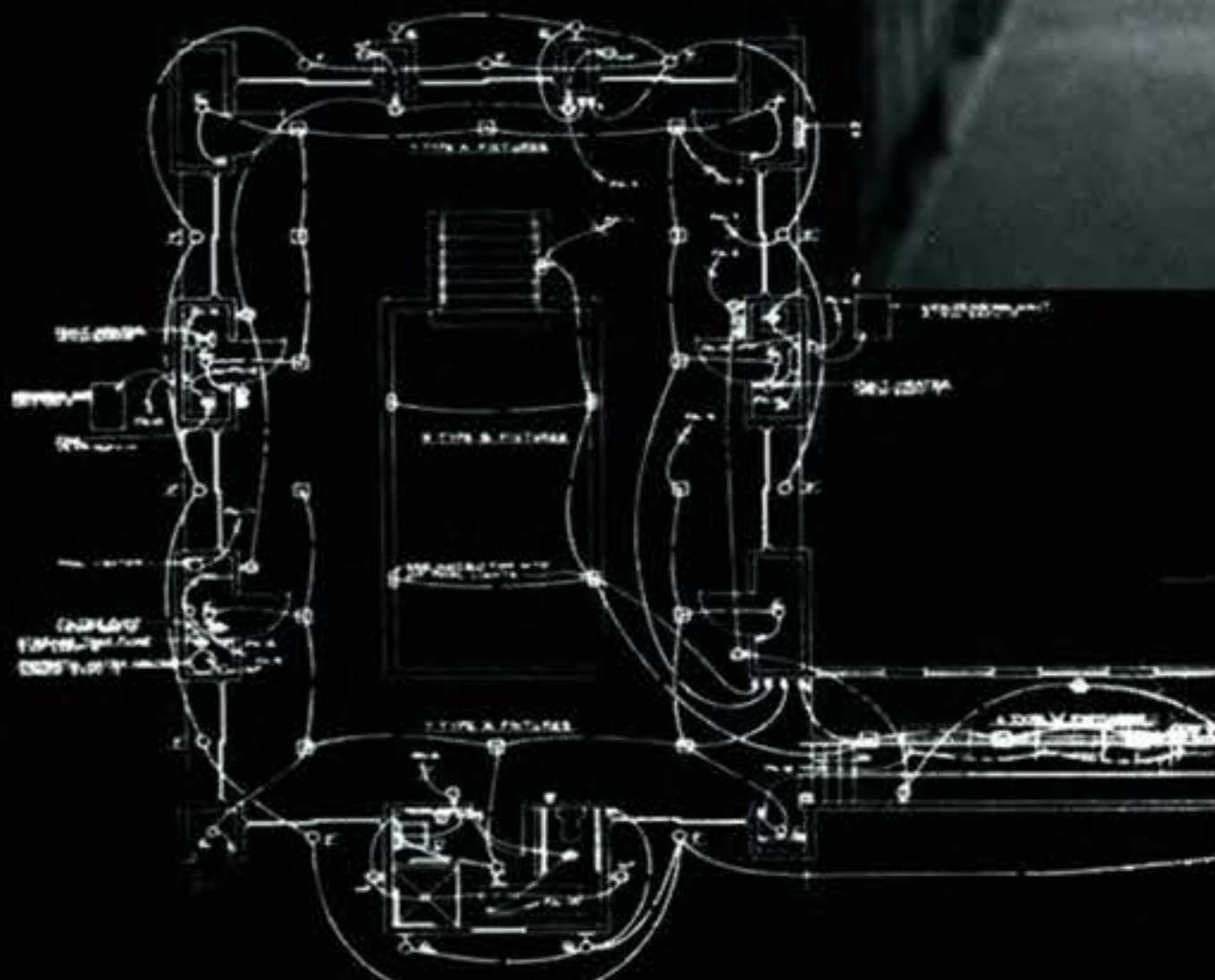


Fig. 12.2

